



SYLLABI OF HISTORY IDC PAPERS

SEMESTER-I

HISIDC101T

HISTORY OF ENVIRONMENT

Contact Hours: 45

Full Marks = 100 [ESE (70) CCA (30)]

Course Objectives:

The objective of the paper is to familiarize the students with the discipline, environmental history, to know the relation between ecology and human civilization, to understand the social movements emerged due to environmental factors.

Unit I: Studies of Environment

- i) Multidisciplinary Nature of the studies of Environment
- ii) Scope and importance of the study of Environment issues.
- iii) Importance of Environmental education. (8 Lectures)

Unit II: Ancient India:

- i) Concept of Environment: Religion and Society
- ii) Animal domestication
- iii) Forests and Wildlife
- iv) Expansion of Agriculture (9 Lectures)

Unit III: Medieval India:

- i) The Physical Environment
- ii) Famine and Epidemic
- iii) Expansion of Agriculture
- iv) Royal hunting and Wildlife (9 Lectures)

Unit IV: Colonial Period.

- i) Famine, disease, and disaster.
- ii) Degradation of Land
- iii) British Forest Policy and Tribal resistance
- iv) Environmental consequences of British rule. (10 Lectures)

Unit V: Environmental Movements in Independent India

- i) Chipko Movement
- ii) Narmada Bachao Movement
- iii) Silent Valley Movement
- iv) Bishnoi Movement
- v) Forest Movement in Northeast India by Jadav Molai Payeng. (9 Lectures)

Expected learning outcomes:

After completing this course, the students will be able to understand about relation between ecology and human civilization and about various social movements emerged due to environmental factors in India.

Suggested Readings:

1. Chakraborty R (ed), Situating Environmental History, Mahohar Publishers, 2007
2. Chakraborty, R, Does Environmental History Matter?, Readers Service, Kolkata, 2006
3. Das, C, A Treatise on Wildlife Conservation in India. Classique Books. 2007
4. Dash M C, & Mishra P C, Man and Environment, Macmillan Publishers India Ltd, 2001
5. Gadgil M & Guha R, An Ecological History of India, Oxford University Press, 2009



6. Handique R., British Forest Policy in Assam, Concept Publishing Company, 2004
7. Kangle R. P., The Kautilya Arthashastra. Second edition. University of Mumbai, part I andII, 1986.
8. Kapur N S, Environmental History of Early India, Oxford University Press, 2011
9. Majumdar A, British Forest Policy and Tribal Commutation in Bengal : (1880-1947),
10. Mishra P C & Das R, Environment and Society, Macmillan India Ltd, 2004
11. Rangarajan L. N., Kautilya- The Arthashastra. Penguin Classics, India , 1992
12. Rangarajan M, Environmental Issues in India A Reader, Pearson Longman, 2011
13. Rangarajan M, India's Wildlife History, Permanent Black, Delhi, 2008
14. Saikia A, Forests and Ecological History of Assam, 1826-2000, Oxford University Press, 2011
15. Sanyal S, Land of seven rivers: History of India's Geography. Penguin UK. 2012
16. Vannucci M., Ecological readings in the Veda. D.K. Print World, New Delhi, India, 1994